

APR 11 2017

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April 11, 2017

TO: Council Chair Ron Menor

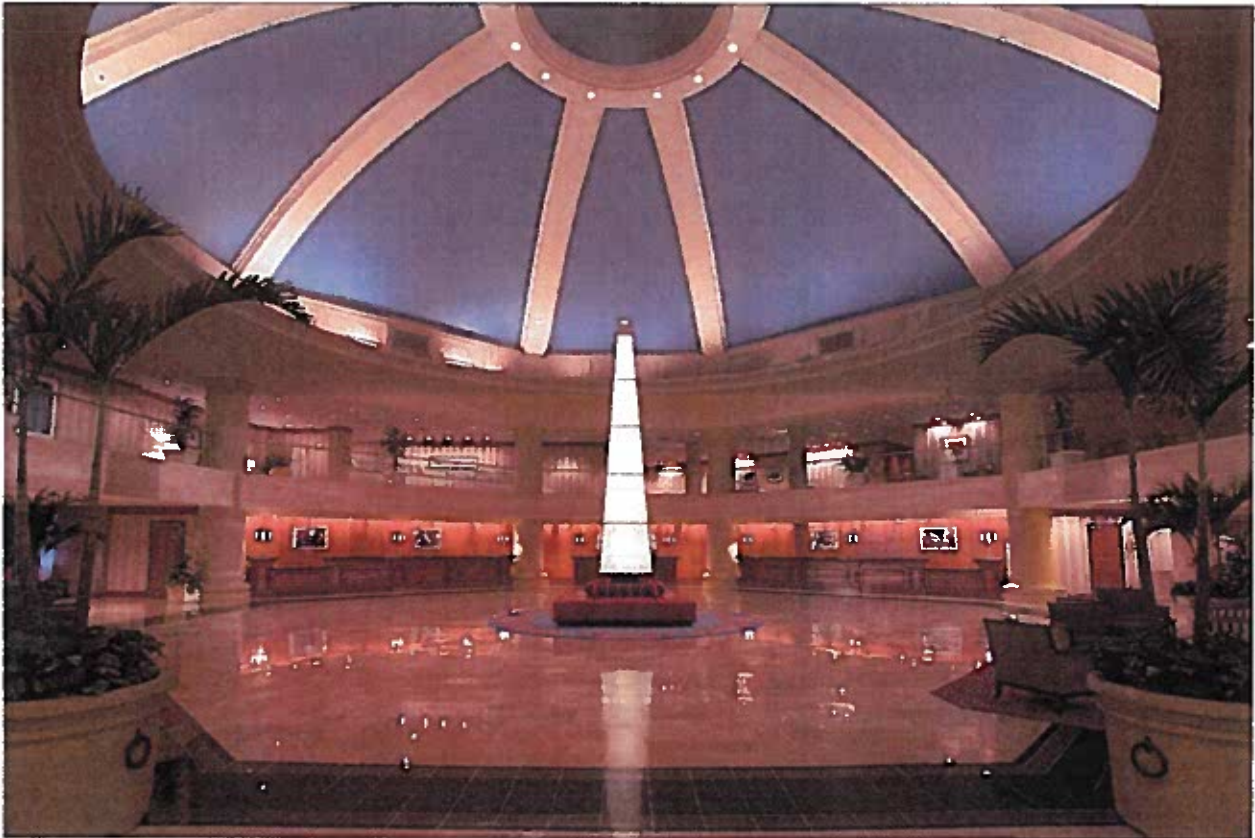
FROM: Council Vice Chair Ikaika Anderson 

SUBJECT: Report for the 2017 NACo Legislative Conference  
Washington Marriott Wardman Hotel  
February 23, 2017 to March 1, 2017

## 2017 National Association of Counties (NACo) Legislative Conference Report



Most events took place at the Washington DC Marriott Park Wardman Conference Hotel.



-The National Association of Counties (NACo) 2017 Legislative Conference was an awesome place to learn about opportunities to leverage county influence on Congress and at the White House especially given that a new Presidential Administration was just brought into Washington DC.

-Hundreds of NACo members met with their congressional delegations throughout the course of the five-day conference, conference committee meetings, and workshops trying to anticipate the new Presidential administration's direction.

During their addresses at the conference's general sessions, Senator Mark Warner (D-Va.), Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) and Representative Rob Bishop (R-Utah) brought conference attendees up to speed on the perspectives from Capitol Hill. They were

extremely informative and provided valuable insight into the federal government and especially in terms of this new Presidential Administration.

Senator Warner told the Opening General Session that the current capitalist system in America has not been working for enough people and provided many stories to help illustrate his points from his vast background in so many industries.

He said "At the macro level, I can give you numbers," about a strong economy. "All of those numbers, statistics and data points don't mean squat if you lost a factory in town. We need a Capitalism 2.0." The various members of the various delegations found these points to be extremely through provoking and is definitely ideas that we have to take back to our various counties as they will be a theme for many years to come.

Representative Bishop said the trend of regulatory authority returning to Congress in House Speaker Paul Ryan's Better Way plan could eventually mean a more responsive federal government in the area of policy making. This is a very good idea and we remain hopeful that it will become a reality.

While Klobuchar, Hennepin County, Minn.'s former county attorney, warned county leaders to be extremely concerned about federal proposals that would inevitably, "land in the counties' laps," such as pending changes to the Affordable Care Act. This is something that the counties really need to be aware of and I will talk with the people of Honolulu and the rest of our leaders to make sure that we are prepared.

Political insider Jim VanderHei, co-founder of both Axios and Politico, spoke to NACo members about political changes brought by President Donald Trump and advised the counties what to expect from the White House during this next term. "Keep expecting volatility, then just be delighted when normal stuff happens," VanderHei told the crowd during the NACo opening general session. This was a very hard thing to hear but we still remain hopeful.

He said that we have to except the current realities and that things are not really going to change regarding this administration. He said we really have to learn with each new day how local governments will have to operate in this very interesting political time frame.

Presidential historian and author Michael Beschloss spoke about the lessons he has learned writing presidential histories. He also noted that historically lawmakers were much more likely to make friendships across the political parties than they are today, given that there is such a deep partisan divide currently in Congress. I appreciated his comments and remain committed to have those of us in government all work together in a truly collaborative manner.

In addition to dozens of workshops, conference attendees also had their choice of several special sessions that focused on compelling issues for county governments. The Town Hall on the Opioid Epidemic was standing room only and



personal testimony from attendees about how the epidemic has touched their communities and their lives was so deeply moving and truly on point for such a critical issue. The issues surrounding drug abuse is so very important for all counties and especially in Hawaii where there are so many people that are in need of help and support.

NACo and its new technology arm, the Public Technology Institute, hosted a symposium and a summit that looked at the challenges and benefits of emerging and innovative technologies and provided great educational opportunities in this truly valuable area.

Disaster resilience and homelessness also came in for special attention at two luncheons with panel discussions devoted to these very important and timely topics especially for Honolulu as we have had such extreme weather conditions have caused so much damage in recent years and so much county resources have been devoted to deal with the aftermath of these harsh weather events.

In conjunction with the conference, NACo hosted a congressional briefing, on February 28, on Capitol Hill specifically focusing in on Medicaid and the role of counties in local health systems.

NACo's Board of Directors adopted more than a dozen interim policy positions recommended by NACo's steering committees. The NACo's Board of Directors also approved two new member benefits provided by IBITS, the nonprofit Institute for Building Technology and Safety: web-based software to manage, automate and track community development processes and a pilot program exploring the use of remote-sensing building inspections. Overall the 2017 NACo Legislative Conference was an awesome place to learn so many things that we can take back to truly benefit our counties.

**Saturday February 25, 2017**



-The National Association of Counties Official registration area opened and official conference credentials and other items necessary for the conference from the National Association of Counties registration staff could be obtained.

-All NACo Annual Conference and Exposition attendees were issued a badge at registration upon check-in. The badge was our ticket to the committee meetings, workshops, general sessions, the exhibit hall and special events. We were all instructed to wear our badges at all times and that they were non-transferable. We were also instructed that if we lost our badge we needed to stop by Registration for a replacement badge and it would cost \$150.

-We then attended the First Time Attendee Orientation and Breakfast. This breakfast was an opportunity for first time attendees to a NACo conference to learn more about NACo, how to get involved and how to navigate the conference. We had the opportunity to ask questions of NACo ambassadors in small group settings. NACo's goal was to connect us to ambassadors that could help us find your way around the conference and to continue to help us navigate NACo's offerings even after we all went home.



The following sessions were also offered at the conference:

-DISASTERS: A Resilient Counties Discussion on Flood Preparation & Response:

Panel on North Carolina Counties' Response to and Early Recovery from Hurricane Matthew :

Representatives from across North Carolina discussed their response to and early recovery from Hurricane Matthew, including what mitigation strategies have best benefitted the counties. Mike Herman from EY Emergency Management Services will moderate the discussion, which will feature Mike Sprayberry, the Hon. Ron Wesson and George Wood.

Launch of The Nature Conservancy's Naturally Resilient Communities Guide:

As a follow up to the Rethinking Flood Protection and Resiliency through Natural Infrastructure focus group discussion at NACo 2016 Annual Conference, Nate Woiwode and the Hon. Grover Robinson will launch The Nature Conservancy's Green Infrastructure Online Guide, which highlights Escambia County's use of green infrastructure strategies in its recovery from major flooding in April 2014.

Discussion with Environment, Energy, and Land Use Leadership

The Resilient Counties Advisory Board and EELU leadership will discussed strategies to align our programming and priorities.

Discussion: Addressing Homelessness in Your County:

Stable housing has a critical impact on all aspects of people's lives. This was an interactive discussion exploring a variety of issues counties are facing related to homelessness, including its causes, the health care needs of homeless individuals, special populations and the overlap with the justice system. National experts discussed affordable and stable housing options for individuals and families and how to provide the supports and services that are often necessary to maintain such housing. Participants were asked to share information about their own counties' work on homelessness, what questions they have, or challenges they are facing.

-There were also the following meetings that were held that day:

[1] Finance Committee Meeting

[2] Defined Contribution and Retirement Advisory Committee

- [3] Environment, Energy and Land Use Policy Steering Committee - Business Meeting
- [4] Financial Services Center Advisory Committee
- [5] Community, Economic and Workforce Development Policy Steering Committee - Business Meeting
- [6] Finance, Pensions and Intergovernmental Affairs Policy Steering Committee - Business Meeting
- [7] Transportation Policy Steering Committee - Business Meeting  
There was a very interesting discussion on drones. James Grimley from the University of Oklahoma told us that in 1980s in Oklahoma, unsophisticated unmanned aircraft were flown to monitor severe weather regarding tornadoes. The warning time for a tornado was about 14 minutes and the goal is to get warning times to 60 minutes. Drones can definitely assist with increasing warning times.

There are however, social trust issues with unmanned camera as we saw from the slide presentation on February 25, 2017 at 5:25 am for poll results. People are also concerned about their images of appearing in public domain & invasion of privacy issues

Then Eric Ebenstein, from DJI Industries that is a drone manufacturer, stated that it is important to understand that drones are getting smaller & cheaper and they are regulated by the Federal Aviation Administration. We learned Washington DC is a no-fly zone 15 miles above & around the city. DJI manufacturers a drone that is programmed to recognize no-fly zones & will not access these areas where the drone will hover the "wall" of the no-fly zone and will not enter the zone. There are any businesses that use drones like roofers, real estate professionals, cell phone tower operators, infrastructure analysts- consultants also offer drone services for hire. Fire departments & public safety agencies use drones as well. Super Bowl LI had a 35-mile no-fly zone and DJI remotely updated software of their sold drones to comply with the Super Bowl no-fly zone.

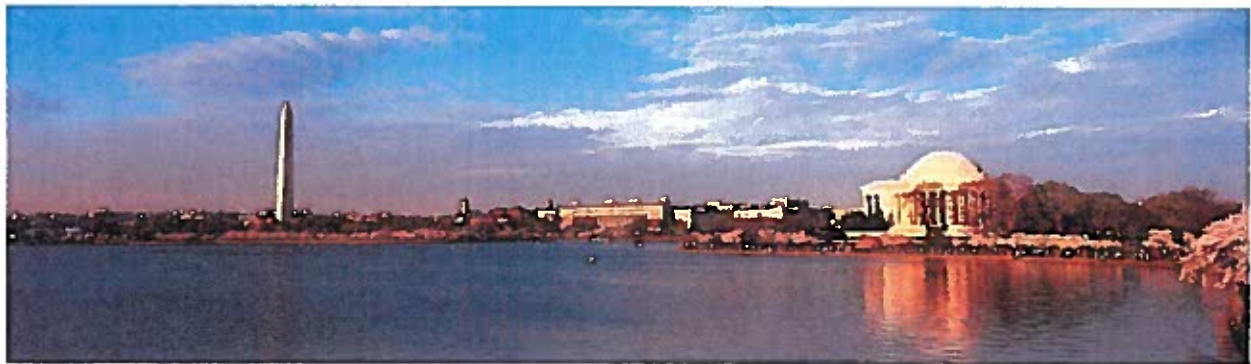
In addition, Mr. Ben Gielow, of Amazon informed us that Amazon Prime Air service just started in December 2016. The service allows a customer to order & receive packages 5 pounds or less to be delivered by drone within 30 minutes. The drone flies at an altitude of 400 feet and Amazon looking to expand service.



Finally, Lieutenant Aviel Sanchez of the Miami-Dade County Police Department informed us that just as people can jail-break cellular phones they can likely jail-break a drone to use it for ill-intentioned purposes.

- [8] Health Policy Steering Committee - Business Meeting
- [9] Justice and Public Safety Policy Steering Committee Afternoon Meeting
- [10] Public Lands Policy Steering Committee - Business Meeting
- [11] Human Services and Education Policy Steering Committee - Business Meeting
- [12] Telecommunications and Technology Policy Steering Committee - Business Meeting
- [13] NACA - National Association of County Administrators Executive Board Meeting
- [14] Second Policy Coordinating Committee Meeting

**Sunday February 26, 2017**



-Supporting a Healthy County in a Changing Health Environment:

Counties and health care businesses are increasingly breaking down traditional boundaries as they emphasize the interaction between health care, public health and human services. Join the conversation about the evolving focuses of health and how the changing national political landscape impacts how counties and health care businesses address health issues. Learn what counties can do to continue to build momentum and continue to improve health.

-There were also the following meetings that were held that day:

- [1] Gulf States Counties and Parishes Caucus
- [2] Immigration Reform Task Force
- [3] IT Standing Committee Meeting
- [4] Rural Action Caucus
- [5] Large Urban County Caucus

-IBTS Natural Disaster Experiences Gained:

IBTS shared experiences gained through the delivery of natural disaster planning, response and recovery services across the country. Participants were introduced to IBTS Onhand, an on line resource of natural disaster-related case studies, tools and tips being developed to meet the needs of stakeholders at the local level. Priority topics included HUD CDBG-DR eligibility and compliance, FEMA Stafford Act grant and financial management and volunteer engagement approaches.

-Town hall on the Opioid Epidemic: Leading in a Crisis:

In countless communities across the nation, abuse of prescription drugs and heroin has reached epidemic levels, leading to unprecedented rates of drug overdoses and related fatalities. As this public health crisis has unfolded, local leaders are formulating effective responses. Much progress has been made on this front, but much work remains to be done. During this audience-focused town hall, NACo members will discuss local stories, successes and challenges with an expert panel that includes several members of the National City-County Task Force on the Opioid Epidemic.

Participants heard from the following panel of experts:

County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper, Erie County, Pennsylvania (moderator)  
Judge Gary Moore, Boone County, Kentucky (co-chair of national city-county opioid task force)  
Board Chair Phyllis Randall, Loudoun County, Virginia  
Mayor Steve Williams, Huntington, West Virginia  
Dr. Richard Jorgensen, Coroner, DuPage County, Illinois  
Asst. Police Chief Russ Hamill, Montgomery County, Maryland  
Dr. Christopher Jones, Acting Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary, Science and Data Policy, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

-There were also the following meetings that were held that day:

- [1] GIS Subcommittee

- [2] Western Interstate Region Board of Directors Meeting
- [3] National Association of County Civil Attorneys Meeting
- [4] National Association of County Information Officers (NACIO) Roundtable Discussion
- [5] National Association of County LGBT Leaders and Allies Policy Roundtable
- [6] Programs and Services Committee Meeting
- [7] State Association Meeting Planners Meeting
- [8] NACA - National Association of County Administrators Idea Exchange
- [9] NACo Board Forum
- [10] North Carolina Association of Black County Officials Business Meeting
- [11] Veterans and Military Services Committee Meeting
- [12] NACo NextGen Business Meeting

-Persuasion: A Workshop in Advanced Communication Skills for County Officials:

Persuasion is the keystone of diplomacy. Whether you're a newly elected county official or a long standing one, the more honed your skills are in persuading people, the more effective you will be in your job. This highly interactive session goes beyond theory – it also gives you the opportunity to learn within the context of the specific people you would like to be able to persuade more effectively.

-Using the Arts to Bolster Your County's Health and Economy: A Meeting of the NACo Arts and Culture Commission:

Update on the Status of the Arts in the United States

-Americans for the Arts' National Initiative for Arts & Health in the Military:

Americans for the Arts recently developed the National Initiative for Arts & Health in the Military (NIAHM) which seeks to advance the arts in health, healing, and healthcare for military service members, veterans, their families and caregivers. This panel will discuss the current status of NIAHM in providing healthcare to our military communities,

expanded opportunities for 2017, and how county governments can partner with this program.

#### County Case Study: Guilford County, Va.

Supported by Guilford County, N.C, ArtsGreensboro drives the health and vitality of the community by supporting arts education, celebrating the diversity of Greensboro and driving economic impact through excellence in arts programming. Since 1962, ArtsGreensboro has invested nearly \$20 million in direct financial support to the Guilford County's arts economy through its grants, facilities and programming, such as festivals and performances.

#### County Case Study: Washington County, Va.

Washington County, Va. has a rich history of preserving and supporting its art, culture and historical sites. The historic Barter Theatre, the State Theatre of Virginia, the Crooked Road, Virginia's Heritage Music Trail, along with the William King Regional Arts Center, the Abingdon Arts Depot and many other cultural sites, fairs and festivals attract visitors from all 50 states and many foreign countries

#### Arts & Culture at the NACo 2017 Annual Conference in Franklin County, Ohio

Franklin County, Ohio, gave an overview of the Arts & Culture activities planned for the NACo 2017 Annual Conference.

-How County Officials can Elevate the Cybersecurity Discussion with CISOs:

We joined AT&T for a discussion on working with chief information security officers to help prevent, detect and respond to cyber threats.

**Monday February 27, 2017**





-The following meetings that were held that day:

- [1] Central Region Caucus Meeting
- [2] Northeast Region Caucus Meeting
- [3] South Region Caucus Meeting
- [4] West Region Caucus Meeting
- [5] National Association of County LGBT Leaders and Allies Policy Roundtable
- [6] Programs and Services Committee Meeting
- [7] State Association Meeting Planners Meeting
- [8] NACA - National Association of County Administrators Idea Exchange
- [9] NACo Board Forum
- [10] North Carolina Association of Black County Officials Business Meeting
- [11] Veterans and Military Services Committee Meeting
- [12] NACo NextGen Business Meeting

-General Session:



NACo heard from leaders like The Hon. Mark Warner (D-Va.), Mr. Jim VandeHei, Mr. Rob Bilo, and Ms. Lynn Scott on various topics related to working with the Federal Government.

**-Building Leadership: Creating a Collaborative County Government:**

Newly elected county officials quickly become members of a close-knit team that is frequently in the public eye. While county officials are not expected to see eye-to-eye, they must be able to work together on behalf of their constituents. This means building a supportive team environment that allows for rational discussion and effective decision-making. This session introduced elected officials to a variety of tools and strategies for building a strong and effective county government.

**-Foreign Investments and U.S. Exports: A Networking Opportunity for County Elected Officials:**

In an increasingly globalized world, foreign direct investment and exports are a major part of the U.S. economy. From employment in U.S. subsidiaries of foreign businesses, to jobs in U.S. companies exporting abroad, international trade brings many jobs to county economies. Counties play an essential role in creating the business-friendly environment for these activities, which includes investing in necessary infrastructure, economic and workforce development and zoning.

Similar to last year's IED Task Force meeting, the Task Force held a special speed-networking event with representatives from three different countries or world regions: Canada, Chile and Africa. These representatives will talk with county officials about the investment interests of foreign businesses in the United States, what export opportunities exist and what counties can do to foster the international side of their economy. The meeting was structured in 15 minute sessions that allow county officials to network directly and in small groups with the industry representatives, foster connections and learn how they can encourage economic growth through international investment. This session was open to all conference participants.

**-Healthy and Inclusive Neighborhood Development: A 'How to' Discussion for Elected Officials:**

This session explored federal and local tools for advancing strong housing policies that promote equitable development and are responsive to local community needs. Counties play a key role in promoting regional collaboration in economic mobility, and we have invited county leaders to share successful strategies to promote access to housing, jobs and other essential services. Join current and former elected officials and well as leaders representing public housing authorities and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to discuss the hope and the challenge of creating inclusive neighborhoods that allow all families to reach their full potential. This interactive discussion was facilitated by the Ford Foundation.

-Managing Your County Manager: How to Retain Management Talent:

County boards in more than 1,300 counties appoint county administrators/managers to help with the increasing complexity of county operations. Most often, county administrators implement the board's policy, run the daily operations of the county and prepare the annual budget. In partnership with the National Association of County Administrators (NACA), this session will discuss the factors behind the retention of county administrators/managers and strategies for county boards to work together with their appointed personnel toward long and stable relationships in serving the community.

-More than Manners: Counties Advancing Civility at the Local Level:

County innovations would be all but impossible without a fundamental value that enables us to govern well: civility. Polarization and the lack of civility at the national level has crept into the governing process at the local level, and counties play a vital role in addressing these national conditions in our communities. This session was an examination of civility today and learn how county leaders can foster civil discourse and respect for others, especially when we disagree.

-Outlook for Federal Legislative and Policy Issues Impacting Counties:

As the Trump Administration works toward its first 100 days agenda and the 115th Congress kicks into high gear, we joined the NACo legislative team to hear how the top issues affecting counties are shaping up, including tax and entitlement reform, transportation and infrastructure, health and criminal justice, public lands management and payments, environmental regulations and much more.

-Reinvesting Justice Dollars to Reduce Mental Illness in Jails:

More than 300 counties have passed resolutions to join the national *Stepping Up Initiative* to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jails. These and many other counties across the country are looking for innovative ways to fund these efforts. In this workshop, we heard from peers who have been able to make justice reinvestment work for efforts to reduce mental illness in jails.

-Achieving Health and Wealth: New Solutions for Counties:

Counties have traditionally attracted and retained top employee talent by offering top benefit packages, but taking care of employee benefits has become more challenging. Fulfilling the promise of providing a comfortable retirement with continued access to excellent health insurance may be one of the toughest challenges faced by counties. Through valuable NACo partnerships with Nationwide and Optum, new solutions for a new era were discussed and explored in this session.

## **-Are Your Hospitals and Health Care Systems Ready? Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services Establishes Emergency Preparedness Requirements:**

On September 16, 2016, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services published a final rule establishing new emergency preparedness requirements for Medicare and Medicaid-participating health care systems. The rule responded to concerns from Congress, the health care community and the public regarding the ability of health care systems to plan and execute appropriate emergency response procedures for disasters. To accomplish this goal, health care systems must develop an effective emergency preparedness program as determined by Department of Health and Human Services that allows them to meet the compliance requirements set out within the final rule by November 15, 2017.

This session covered approaches to building a successful emergency preparedness program. These core elements answer the requirements of the final rule and allow for a cost effective approach: (1) Risk Assessment and Emergency Planning; (2) Policies and Procedures; (3) Communication Plan; (4) Training and Testing.

These core components can be leveraged across providers and suppliers as diverse as hospitals, organ procurement organizations and home health agencies to develop emergency preparedness programs that meet their specific needs and circumstances, as well as the needs of their patients, residents, clients and participants.

## **-How to Create Stories to Move Lawmakers' Hearts, Minds and VOTES:**

People have trouble remembering facts, but they never forget a good story. Effective advocacy appeals to the heart, as well as the head and political health, of the legislator. Learn how to organize and present your story through the tactics used by actors. This presentation included the seven key elements of public policy advocacy storytelling, and walks participants through an exercise to develop their own personal story to move the hearts, minds and VOTES of lawmakers.

## **-Navigating a New Era of Crisis Communications: How to Manage Non-traditional Events:**

The world is increasingly complex. An incident in one county can rapidly become an national crisis, fueled by 24 hour news media coverage, and the proliferation of mass media.

Governments are faced with an unrelenting expansion of communications media. Planning ahead and protecting citizens from risk is becoming ever more demanding. Pandemics, popular uprisings and the disruption of essential services are but some of the unpredictable events that have left governments looking vulnerable and unprepared.

This workshop explored crisis management and the way in which communication can be used as a crisis management tool. The aim is to ensure that participants will be

better able to work with colleagues to develop and deliver straightforward, practical communication strategies for managing crises.

**-Overcoming Barriers to Integrate and Share Justice and Health Data:**

Using data and analysis to reduce incarceration is a cornerstone of two national NACo initiatives, *Stepping Up* and *Data-Driven Justice*. The value of data integration and analysis is taking on increasing importance in county efforts to connect justice-involved individuals with the appropriate community-based treatment and support services to break the cycle of incarceration. In this workshop, explore how to overcome challenges surrounding the sharing of justice, health and behavioral health information as well as different approaches to data integration, system sharing and analysis that can improve decision making across county systems.

**-Revenue Caps, Mandates and More: Lessons Learned and County Revenue Solutions:**

Counties are increasingly caught between more state and federal unfunded mandates and state limits on their ability to raise revenue. Years after the Great Recession, revenues have not recovered in many counties, while costs of mandated services are rising faster than inflation. This session explores trends in county fiscal conditions, together with a look at state caps on county revenue authority, state and federal mandates, fiscal challenges on the horizon and the revenue solutions counties are implementing around the country. This workshop also provided a toolkit with talking points and evidence on these issues and includes a panel of county elected and appointed officials to provide different perspectives from around the country.

**-Understanding the Role of Mega-Regions in Economic Development and Transportation:**

This session will give counties an understanding of mega-regions (i.e. large networks of metropolitan regions that are combined because they may have similar economic, cultural, environmental and infrastructure systems) and how they can help counties to grow their economies by improving transportation connectivity and mobility. It explored strategies for multijurisdictional cooperation, stakeholder involvement, freight movement and transportation infrastructure investments. The panel discussed national and international trends and highlight case studies of mega-region planning and investment by counties.

**-NACo Board of Directors Meeting**

**-Master Class: Transforming Public Leadership Through Integrity and Civility:**

Building upon this past fall's leadership development series, Understanding Integrity and Civility, NACo is offering this deeper dive into the skills of decision-making as it relates to civility. In an intimate setting, and through interactive exercises, participants personally developed principles by which solutions to complex problems are found and the rules by

which discourse is conducted. Participants will develop a deeper understanding of the meaning of “integrity” and “civility” as they practice skills and learn how to apply them consistently.

**-Aligning Strategy, Culture and Customer Experience in Government:**

Change leaders like you have high expectations, a vision of the possible and urgency to engage others. We joined top-rated speaker Robin Lawton for this stimulating and entertaining session and experience a pragmatic approach that will strengthen your ability to achieve strategic outcomes taxpayers will notice and employees will enthusiastically deploy.

**-Building a Culture of Health through Cross-Sector Collaboration:**

Transportation, social support networks, employment, education, housing and income contribute to up to 40 percent of a person’s overall health, and county policies can significantly impact these social determinants. Many counties have fostered collaboration across the numerous sectors that affect social determinants in order to build healthier communities. These counties shared how they expanded the definition of health in their counties to create a county-wide culture of health.

**-County Economies 2016**

This session will explore the latest economic data for counties for 2016 and explain how to use NACo’s County Economies toolkit. We discussed the findings of the analysis of the recovery across the 3,069 county economies in 2016 and explain the county maps, data and profiles available through NACo’s County Explorer interactive map. We learned how NACo members can use the County Economies maps and profiles for advocacy, benchmarking and communication purposes.

**-Enhancing the Security of your County in 2017:**

Security demands continue to grow more complex in the public sector, and counties need efficient, effective solutions to keep communities safe. Professionals from Experian and Unicom, companies dedicated to providing solutions for counties and public agencies, presented at this session on security issues from several angles including data management, fraud and identity theft protection, physical security and technology solutions for law enforcement. Attendees walked away better equipped to use digital and technological enhancements to protect their data, employees and citizens from local and global risks.

**-How to Create a Local Event that will Attract a Member of Congress and Staff:**

Congressional Management Foundation’s research shows that members of Congress use visits to local facilities as one of the most valuable ways to collect constituent views and opinions – more than any other source of information! And yet, how do these events happen? How do groups entice a member of Congress to attend a local event or meet



with key stakeholders? This session showed us how! A former congressional staffer walked participants through the steps from inviting legislators to learn about your issues and have a powerful personal experience about the value of your organization in their district or state. Participants received a specific checklist for the creation of a successful event.

**-Is Your County Solar Ready? Strategies for Removing Local Barriers to Solar Energy:**

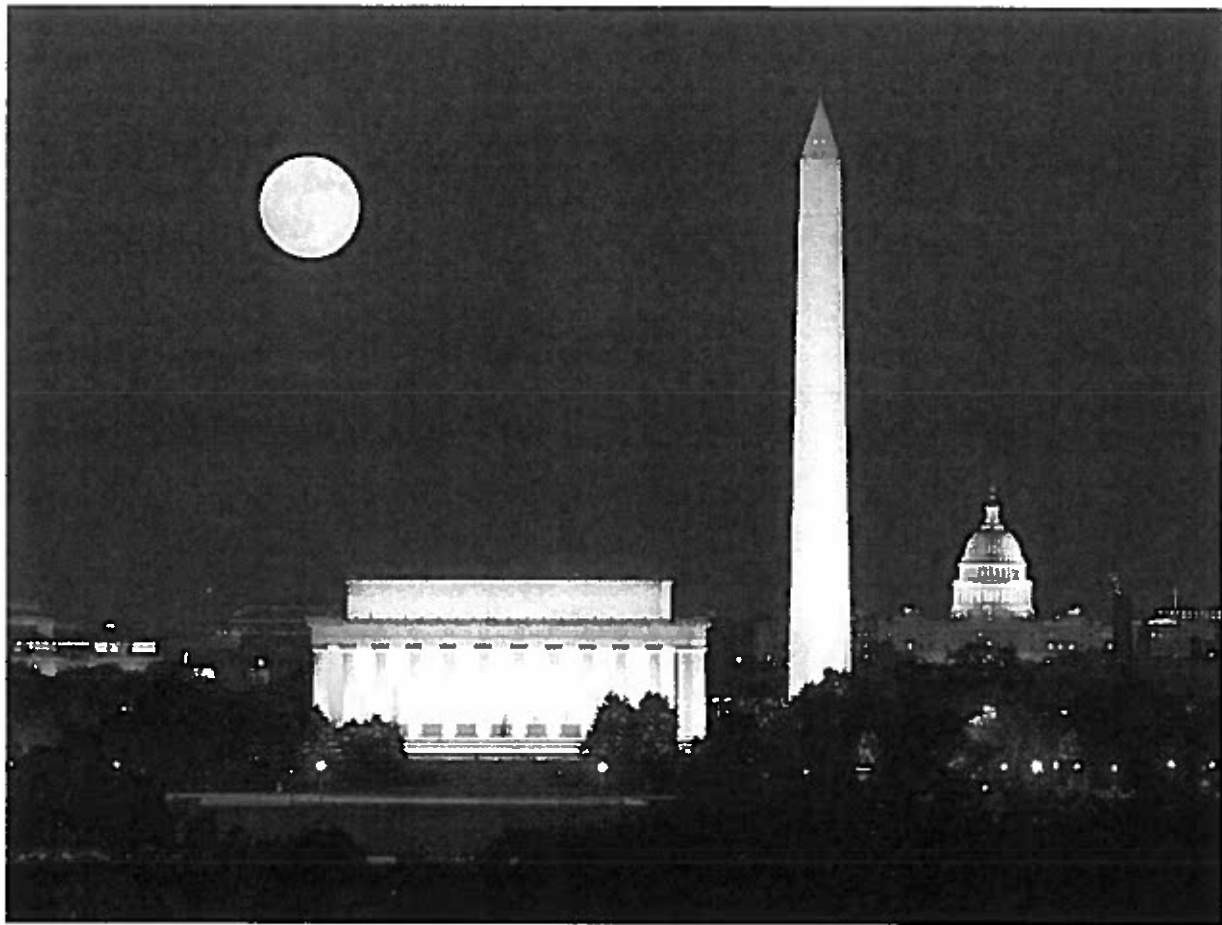
Despite rapid growth in solar energy markets across the country, solar development is still often limited by local barriers in zoning, permitting and financing. Local soft costs and red tape ultimately raise the price of solar energy systems, which is passed on to residents and businesses. In an effort to become more solar-friendly, many counties are seeking to improve and streamline their local solar policies and processes. This was an interactive workshop that dived into best practice examples of strategies and solutions currently being implemented in counties across the country. Participants learned more about the SolSmart program as an available resource for counties to gain no-cost technical assistance and receive high-profile national recognition.

**-Social Security — The Choice of a Lifetime:**

The decision regarding how and when to file for Social Security benefits is one of the most important choices you will ever make. It's the choice of a lifetime. This informative session provided you with updates on the Social Security filing rules that have recently changed. Attendees also had the opportunity to complete an assessment and get results emailed to them after the conference.

-We also were able to meet with Congresswoman Hanabusa for a very thought provoking meeting regarding issues that relate to Hawaii. The Congresswoman is very committed in helping us with many issues that face the City and County of Honolulu.





**Tuesday, February 28, 2017**

**-Getting Started with County-based Cross-sector Partnerships:**

This workshop is designed for county leaders interested in tackling public problems in collaboration with partners from the business and non-profit sectors in their communities. This workshop opened with a brief presentation from The Intersector Project and be moderated by panel of county leaders who have successfully launched and led cross-sector partnerships. We learned about the resources available to county leaders seeking to work in partnership, as well as collaborative tactics that are key for the early stages of partnership. The panel illuminated the different ways in which counties have worked in partnership with business and non-profit partners, and focus on key strategies for mitigating partnership risks and for overcoming challenges.

**-Increasing Equity in Your County's Criminal Justice System:**

The criminal justice system disparately impacts low-income individuals and individuals of color in many ways, including through the use of fines and fees and disproportionate rates of arrest, sentencing and detention. We learned from experts and counties working to increase equity in local justice systems by improving community

engagement, reducing the use of fines and fees and offering opportunities to resolve outstanding warrants or suspended driver's licenses.

#### -Newly Elected, Now What? Tips and Tricks to Making the most of NACo Membership:

We gained insight into issues at the federal level that impact counties and what you can do to stay abreast of important issues. We learned about programs available to NACo member counties that help you save money for your county and residents, discover programs that will help address important issues such as opioid abuse, criminal justice reform and health and wellness. As a newly elected official there is so much to learn – NACo's goal is to make it easy for you, answer questions and direct you to relevant resources.

#### -The Role of Modern Technology in the Opioid Fight:

Government leaders at all levels are facing a relentless spiral of overdoses and deaths connected to the current opioid crisis. This outbreak cannot be addressed by the justice system or the health system alone. Elected leaders have discovered that new approaches are required--approaches that address the multiple issues that define addiction and drug abuse with actionable data.

This session explored how technology can bridge the gap between resources, the need for timely, operational data and engaging citizens to create awareness and support of your programs, as well as shorten the cycle to intercede.

Technology like GIS, big data and analytics can: improve data collection and analysis, quickly communicate internally, to neighboring jurisdictions, and with the public for increased awareness and response, develop solutions that result in more efficient services and combine with performance measurements to inform iterative policymaking.

#### -Top Things You Wanted to Know About Public Finance but Were Afraid to Ask:

This was the next installment in a series of sessions intended to enhance the financial leadership of elected officials that began at the 2016 NACo Annual conference. This session provided for a high-level overview of debt issuance and the role it can play in your county's capital planning or economic development, as well as learn how a new Congress and administration can impact public finance.

#### -Clearing the Way for Big Taxpayer Savings: Considering the Role of Cooperative Purchasing in Procurement:

Public procurement is a complex, challenging area that combines an ever-changing legislative landscape with budget tightening and the need for maximum transparency. Leading counties seeking to save taxpayer money, to save time, and to access the highest value products, services and cutting-edge technologies have used cooperative

purchasing through U.S. Communities to achieve a balanced, successful approach to procurement. In this session, participants learned the value of integrating cooperative purchasing in county procurement programs and discuss how U.S. Communities is an effective resource for NACo members nationwide.

**-Investing in County Priorities: Strategies for Effective Property Tax Administration:**

Property tax is the main general revenue source for majority of counties around the country. In partnership with the International Association of Assessing Officers, this session discussed strategies for effective property tax administration, basic terminology, and best practices in valuation methods. Principles of a high-quality, cost-effective property tax system will be covered with emphasis on the critical nature of accurate data. This session also highlighted effective online information and research tools for taxpayers to assist in the public's understanding of calculating property taxes and dealing with appeals.

**-NACo County Leadership Institute: Gaining a Deeper Perspective:**

The County Leadership Institute (CLI) is in its fourteenth year of developing leaders at the county level. The workshop provided the opportunity to learn about how CLI was developed and why its such a main-stay with county leaders. We discovered the principles of the Adaptive Leadership Model, understand how the application process works and learn from members that have been through the program. After attending this session it will be good to take advantage of this outstanding leadership program.

**-Understanding and Shaping the Federal Regulatory Process:**

Due to an increase in the number of federal regulations that impact counties, and the unfunded mandates that accompany these regulations, the federal rulemaking process has become a very complex and daunting experience. In this session we learned how county officials and employees can navigate and participate in the federal rulemaking process—ensuring that the county voice is heard.

**-Economic Shock: Lessons Learned from Coal and Timber Counties:**

Many smaller and rural communities across the country have for generations been historically reliant upon one dominant industry or employer. What happens when the industry faces a severe declines or the employer leaves? How can rural places reinvent and diversify local economies to become more resilient to economic shock and create lasting economic development? This session explored these questions, using lessons learned from transitioning coal and timber communities as case examples.

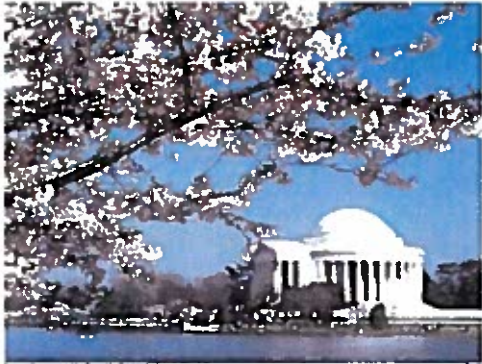
**-Using Data to Create Effective Health Policies:**

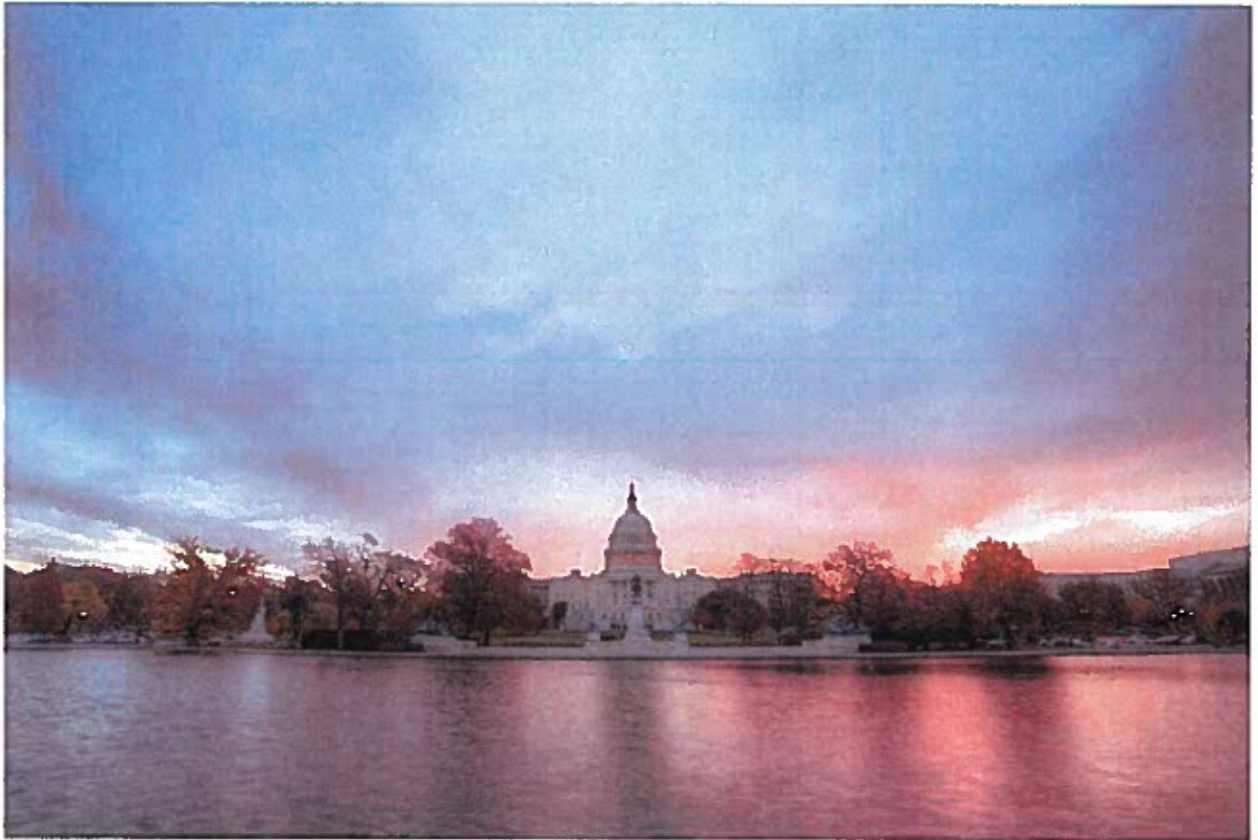
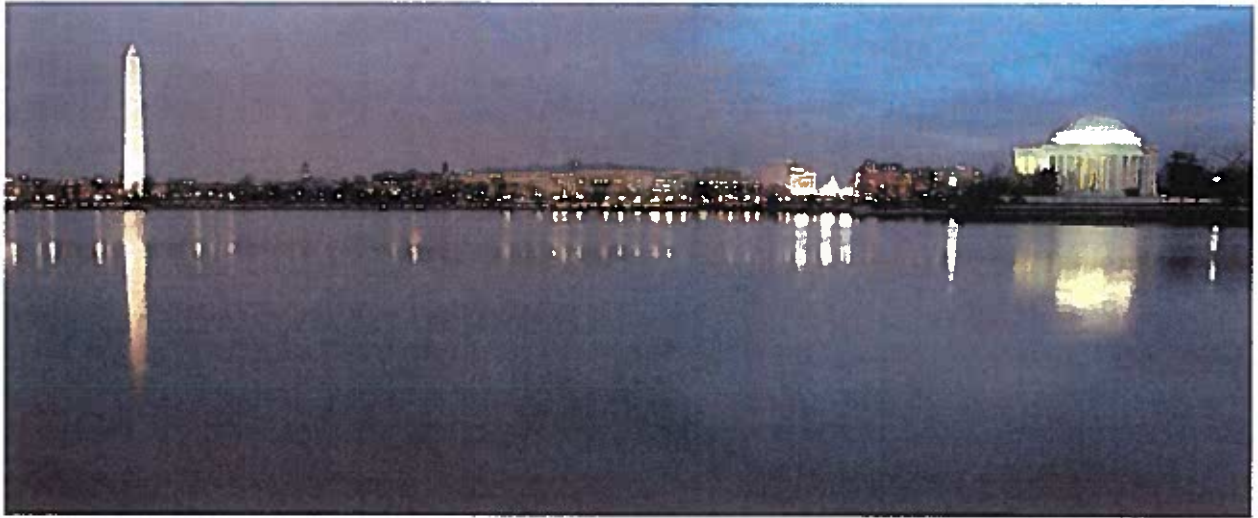
County leaders are continually seeking data to inform policymaking to improve health in their counties. This interactive, facilitated discussion explored how counties can find

relevant data sources to identify issues and examine health indicators, prioritize county needs and implement targeted and effective health policies. We came prepared to discuss and share your data questions with experts.











City Council  
City and County of Honolulu

## CLAIM FOR TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Date: 5/9/17

Traveler: Ikaika Anderson

Event: 2017 NACo Legislative Conference

Location: Washington, D.C.

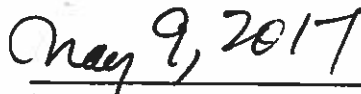
Dates: From February 25, 2017

To March 1, 2017

Description	Amount	Notes:
1. Registration Fee		
2. Airfare		
3. Hotel	1488.50	
4. Meals	153.92	
5. Ground Transportation	249.18	
6. Tips	79.38	
7. Other	25.00	
Other		
Other		
8. Adjustment		
TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT	1995.98	

This is to certify that the above data, based upon receipts submitted to Council Administrative Support Services via a CCLTRVL02 form, is accurate. Further, I am claiming reimbursement for expenses associated with a trip in which City business was conducted and personal funds were used to advance payment.

  
Signature of Traveler

  
Date